

## Some Deficient Characters in Daoist Studies

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Individuals often assume that *scholars* of Daoism are *adherents* of Daoism. They are not. It thus would be a mistake to consult them on Daoist identity, affiliation, and values. In fact, most of them not only are not even Daoist sympathizers, but rather are Daoist detractors. This is most (un)palpable in their deficient character “qualities.” The present occasional piece is a list of said characters so that the impressionable and vulnerable may avoid being disoriented, misinformed, or misled. Most of these academics are contemporary nineteenth-century Orientalists (CNO). <sup>(S)</sup> indicates “Strickmannian” and usually membership in The Sinological Mafia (TSM).

Poul Andersen 安保羅

(University of Hawaii, Manoa [retired])

Stephen Bokenkamp 柏夷<sup>(S)</sup>

(Arizona State University; formerly Indiana University)

Russell Kirkland 柯克蘭 (1955-2023)

(University of Georgia)

Terry Kleeman 祁泰履<sup>(S)</sup>

(University of Colorado, Boulder)

Lai Chi-tim 黎志添

(Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Fabrizio Pregadio 玄英 [*sic*]

(Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg)

Florian Reiter 常志靜 [*sic*]

(Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

Michel Strickmann 司馬虛 (Michael Strickman; 1942-1994)

(University of California, Berkeley [fired with cause])

Brook Ziporyn 任博克\*

(University of Chicago)

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\* Ziporyn technically is not a scholar of Daoism, but rather of so-called “Chinese philosophy.” His hiring in the Divinity School of the University of Chicago thus represents one of the most egregious examples of search committee and (non)disciplinary incompetence in recent memory. His nonsensical views about “Daoism” (read: Orientalist construct), classical Daoism in particular, are now becoming replicated by other, affiliated pseudo-scholars and faux intellectuals (i.e., academics), especially in the *Zhuāngzǐ* Philosophy Industry (ZZPI). NB: I was not a candidate for the position.